

May 8, 1975

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members, I'm happy to see that many supporting votes. I hope that they stick around to vote to advance the bill. I move that it be advanced.

PRESIDENT: Any discussion on this motion? Question is the advancement of this bill. Record your vote. Please vote. Kindly vote. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 5 nays.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced.

CLERK: I move to return LB443 to Select File for Specific amendment. Signed, Senator Bereuter. Mr. President, 443 is presently on E & R for initial. Senator Bereuter had some further amendments to the bill found on page 1628 and 1643 of the Journal. He asks unanimous consent to withdraw those amendments.

PRESIDENT: Are there objections? Seeing none so ordered.

CLERK: Now Mr. President, I move to return LB443 to Select File for the attached amendment. The Standing Committee amendment (read)

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature many people including the introducer of this bill are familiar with what I am attempting to do here. I think that it is significant to those Senators that represent portions of out-state Nebraska and some of those Senators who reside in metropolitan areas that represent rural areas as well. The intent is very clear. WE have 35% of the population of this state living in Lincoln and Omaha. What I am attempting to do is to assure that at least 50% of the money is made available by 443 would be available to eligible applicants from other portions of the state. I am saying that Lincoln and Omaha probably do have substantial problems beyond most of the state and deserve a larger share. Since they only have 35% of the population I think that my proposal for a 50% being provided first to other parts of the state is reasonable. Now if applicants would not be available from those portions of the extent to the extent of the state to 50% then that money becomes available to applications to the city of Lincoln and to the city of Omaha. Additionally you should know that a part of the 50% money that is set aside for non-metropolitan Nebraska could also be made available to Omaha transit authority, to Lincoln transit authority and to the extent that they serve non-metropolitan Nebraska. One thing to keep in mind is that the urban mass transit authority agency of the federal government makes grants available to communities over 50,000 so Lincoln and Omaha already have access to that federal money. Funds from that agency are not available to other parts of the state because all of our first class cities are under 50,000. So please keep in mind what I'm trying to do here. I'm trying to insure that some of the money at least a reasonable share goes to outstate portions of this state. I will be happy to answer any specific questions that you might have if I am able.